

be able to buy a home, get a job, pay off their student loans. We are doing it because it is our generation's responsibility. A frequently stated reason is we are doing it out of a sense of responsibility to our children or grandchildren. I want to join that chorus.

Mr. President, this happens to be a picture taken of my wife and myself and our eight grandchildren. These three, who are triplets, were born approximately 14 months ago. I am pleased to report that one of those triplets, whose name is Adele Gibson, took her first steps yesterday, and I was there to observe her taking three of those first steps. She is ready to start her life of increased mobility and independence. It is for Adele and her cousins and the millions of other grandchildren of America for whom we take this action.

This amendment will force us to make some of the tough decisions that we have become too accustomed to avoid. The passage of this amendment is not a time to exalt. Passing this amendment is not a victory. We may have, by passage of this amendment—should we be able to get the constitutional number to do so tomorrow—performed the equivalent of the hockey exercise of getting the puck into an empty, unguarded net.

The challenge is going to be when we can do the tough work of scoring against the difficult opponent of inertia, the difficult opponent of special interest, the difficult opponent of people who have developed a set of expectations that are necessarily going to have to be challenged if we are to move in a different course. These choices will be difficult, and many of them will not be politically prudent. However, they must be made.

So, Mr. President, I state again that it is my intention tomorrow to vote for the constitutional amendment which will establish as a fundamental policy of the Government of the United States of America that we will balance our budget. But I do not wish anyone who observes this process, and certainly none of us who will participate directly in it at noon tomorrow, to be under any delusions that we have done some heroic act by voting for this constitutional amendment. We have just stated that we are unable to make the tough choices without the threat of a constitutional crisis in failing to do so and, thus, are prepared to impose the shackles of that crisis upon ourselves and those who will serve here in the future.

We have stated that while we have been unwilling to make the tough choices to date, that with those shackles we will be forced to do so.

So this is a time of sober reflection on our failure rather than exaltation at a temporary success.

I hope that my colleagues will provide the necessary constitutional margin to pass this amendment tomorrow, because without it, I do not see any evidence in our actions and actions as

recently as the past 2 weeks that give me cause to believe we will, in fact, make those tough decisions to balance the budget of the U.S. Government, achieve the benefits that will come from that and be faithful to Adele Gibson and the other grandchildren of America.

Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO BILL COHEN

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, the State of Maine has a rich tradition of sending independent and thoughtful voices to the U.S. Senate. Margaret Chase Smith and Ed Muskie are just two Senators with whom I have served who have carried on this tradition.

For the past 18 years, that tradition and the best interests of Maine citizens have been very ably represented in this Chamber by our colleague, BILL COHEN.

One thing I have learned about BILL COHEN is that he does not know how to just touch the surface of an issue. If I gave him an assignment, or if he involved himself in a problem, then along with learning everything there is to know about that problem, he also would provide innovative solutions.

Military preparedness, the Central Intelligence Agency, lobby reform, health care fraud and abuse, Medicare, international trade, these are just a few of the countless areas that have benefited from BILL COHEN's intellect and energy.

As my colleagues know, BILL has also found time to publish a number of books, including a very thoughtful look at his first year in the Senate, a spy novel, an account of the Iran-Contra investigation, and a number of volumes of poetry.

BILL's departure from the Senate will leave him with more time for writing, and more time for thinking. And I have no doubt that his writing and his thinking will continue to influence American public policy for many years to come.

SENATOR PAUL SIMON

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, it is no secret that one regret I will have when I leave the Senate is the fact that we did not send a balanced budget amendment to the States. And I know that regret is shared by many in this Chamber including our colleague, Senator PAUL SIMON. The balanced budget amendment is a cause that Senator SIMON has courageously advanced since his arrival here many years ago in 1985. Perhaps his aversion to deficits and red

ink arose from the fact that Senator SIMON began his career at age 19 by editing and publishing a small newspaper.

Whatever the reason, Senator SIMON hit the nail on the head when he stated that allowing skyrocketing deficits to continue was "a policy of folly." If I know Senator SIMON, I know that he will continue to write and speak against this policy of folly until it is changed.

The balanced budget is not the only debate to which Senator SIMON has devoted his considerable intellect and energy. Education reform, the impact television has on our children, and world hunger are just three of the many issues Senator SIMON has embraced during his 12 years in this Chamber.

I will also long remember the support Senator SIMON provided during the battle for passage of the Americans With Disabilities Act. His long and distinguished public career also includes 8 years in the Illinois House of Representatives, 6 years in the Illinois State senate, 4 years as Illinois lieutenant governor, and 10 years in the U.S. House of Representatives. Somehow, this prolific writer has also found time to author 15 books and through all his nearly 50 years of service, from his day as crusading editor until today, he has maintained a spotless reputation for total and complete integrity.

Though we come from different sides of the aisle, I can say without hesitation Senator SIMON's retirement will deprive this Chamber of one of our most thoughtful Members. Elizabeth joins me in wishing he and Jeanne many more years of health and happiness.

SENATOR MARK HATFIELD

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, in the suite of offices I have been privileged to occupy as Republican leader hangs a picture of Senator Charles McNary of Oregon. Senator McNary served as Republican leader for over 10 years in the 1930's and 1940's, and he served for over 26 years in the Senate.

He was the longest serving Senator in Oregon history until his record was broken by our colleague, Senator MARK HATFIELD. All Oregonians would agree that not only has Senator HATFIELD made history in terms of longevity, he has also set standards in terms of integrity.

Senator HATFIELD and I have served together in this Chamber for over 27 years. In that time, we have agreed on many issues and we have disagreed on many others, but I can say without hesitation that not once in the years we have served together did I ever doubt that MARK HATFIELD was standing up for what he truly believed was right for Oregon and for America.

Senator HATFIELD has devoted himself to many causes in the Senate, including improving Oregon's infrastructure, medical research, and the search for a cure to Alzheimer's disease. Perhaps he is best known for his dedication to the cause of peace, a dedication